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VISIBLE WRITING



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V. H. COFFEY
Department Store, Corner Bond and Twelfth.

HOTEL PORTLAND

The Finest Hotel in the Northwest

PORTLAND, OREGON

POLYGAMY IS NOT ISSUE

Mormonism Only Should Be the Charge Against Senator-Elect Smoot.

MINISTERS WIRE THE SENATE

Believe That Their Cause Will Be Weakened if Other Than Main Question Enters Into Objections.

Salt Lake City, Feb. 28.—A committee representing the Ministerial association and the citizens, who protested against the seating of Reed Smoot in the United States senate, have sent a telegram to Senator Burrows, chairman of the senate committee on privileges and elections, deprecating the charge of polygamy filed with the committee by Rev. J. L. Lelich as tending to obscure the main issue raised against Mr. Smoot, that of his being an apostle of the Mormon church.

The telegram is signed by Parley L. Williams and E. B. Critchlow, representing the citizens' committee, and Rev. W. M. Paden, of the First Presbyterian church of Salt Lake, representing the Ministerial association. This action was taken after a meeting, at which the sentiment seemed unanimous that the polygamy charge should play no part in the fight against Mr. Smoot. "We feel that polygamy is in no way the issue," said a member of the association. "The principle we are fighting for is that as an apostle of the Mormon church Mr. Smoot has no right to a seat in the United States senate. That he is or is not a polygamist does not play any part."

SENDS SMOOT SWEET SYMPATHY

Boise, Idaho, Feb. 28.—In the house today the following presented by Moore of Idaho county (dem.) was unanimously adopted and the speaker instructed to telegraph copies of the same to Hon. Reed Smoot and the United States senators from Idaho at Washington.

"To the Hon. Reed Smoot, United States senator-elect from Utah, Washington, D. C.—Greeting: The house of representatives of the state of Idaho extends to you the best wishes of its members separately and collectively. We view with profound regret the agitation against your being seated as a United States senator an office to which you have been chosen by the legislature of Utah in the proper exercise of its sovereign powers. We believe that the opposition to you because of your religion is contrary to the American spirit demanding separation of church and state, and that this opposition contemplates violation of section 3 article 6 of the constitution of the United States, which reads: 'No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.' This letter is forwarded to you in the name of the people of Idaho."

EXTRA SESSION ASSURED

President Will Probably Call Senate Together March 5.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Senatorial callers on the president today regard an extra session of the senate as practically inevitable. Determination of advocates of both the Cuban reciprocity and Panama canal treaties to secure their ratification continues firm. If they cannot ratify them before the final adjournment of this congress they will do so at an extra session of the senate. That will be called by the president to meet probably March 5.

COMPANIES WILL COMBINE

Purchase of St. Louis Utility Step Toward Consolidation.

New York, Feb. 28.—Purchase of the Laclede Gas Light company of St. Louis by the North American company of this city is said to be the last step toward a big combination of all the light and power companies of St. Louis, over which the North American company of this city will exercise control, says the Herald today.

James Campbell stated to a reporter previous to his departure for St. Louis that he was preparing to sever his connection with the various public utility enterprises of St. Louis, with which he had been long connected. As he was the dominant interest in practically all the important St. Louis companies, his holdings will pass to the North American company.

It is understood the North American company will finance the purchase of the Laclede proposition very much the same as was done in the case of the

Detroit Gas companies, which it bought some months ago. Collective trust bonds will be issued against the stock deposited an din the same way the treasury of the North American company will be reimbursed. A syndicate with the North American company as the manager will be formed as soon as the preliminary details are completed.

DRAWING TO CLOSE

Present Congress Has Put Into Effect Important Measures.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The work of the present session of congress, the closing of which marks the expiration of the 57th congress is practically at an end except for the passage of appropriation bills, now pending and these are in the final stages. Limited numbers of other measures may be passed during the last hours but the number will be small.

Among the acts of this session is that creating a department of commerce and labor, anti-trust act, known as the Elkins law, a bill enabling the attorney general to expedite suits brought under the Sherman anti-trust law; a bill removing the tariff on coal, one providing a general staff corps for the United States army, measures of great importance to the Philippines have been adopted.

Among the acts of the 57th congress which were adopted at this session are the following: "Authorizing construction of an isthmian canal, providing civil government in the Philippines, repealing Chinese exclusion laws, repealing war taxes, creating a permanent census bureau and providing a system of irrigation for the arid lands of the west."

SCARED THE UNDERTAKER

Funeral of Supposed Corpse in New Jersey is Deferred Indefinitely.

New York, Feb. 28.—Miss Edith Curzon, of Red Bank, N. J., is now recovering from pneumonia after her family thought her dead. She posed as the mistress of a livery in Red Bank's Washington's birthday parade, and caught a cold which quickly prostrated her. Yesterday she died apparently, and an undertaker was called in. As he was about to prepare the body for the shroud he was startled to perceive that the right arm, which had lain outside the bedspread was now drawn up near the face. Then he noticed an eyelid twitch. The family was summoned, work begun to keep afloat the spark of life, and after a time Miss Curzon was able to notice what was going on. Today she is improving with every chance of recovery.

THREE MEN KILLED

Passenger Train Wrecked in the South—Many Injured.

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 28.—The fast passenger train, Chattanooga to Salisbury, leaving Chattanooga at 11:45 last night, was wrecked by spreading rails on the Southern railway about three miles west of Lenoir City, Tenn., this morning about 2 o'clock. Three persons, including the engineer, were killed outright and 24 injured.

Just before Engineer Bibb died, a physician endeavored to have him drink a little whiskey in the hope of extending his life as long as possible. The engineer refused it, saying: "I have never touched it yet and do not want to begin to drink it now." Continuing he said: "I am going to die, so go and look after the women and children in the coaches." He expired a few minutes later.

FRESHETS DO DAMAGE

Louisville, Feb. 28.—The annual spring freshet, which yearly does damage to railroads and crops, and at times inflicts loss of life, has left this season's impression on many parts of the south after a tremendous two days' rain, with an accompaniment of high winds. Accidents last night and this morning directly attributable to the elements have resulted in the death of nine persons and injury of 29.

Flat Iron wear out. So do Kingsbury Hats. But it takes a long time. Ask your merchant.



HERMAN WISE,
Sole Agent for Astoria.

LOWER HOUSE DOES LITTLE

Every Petext Possible Is Seized by the Democrats to Delay and Obstruct.

THE NET RESULT NEALY NIL

Reading Clerks Exhausted With Their Work—Confusion and Din Prevailed on the Floor of the Hall.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Democrats stuck to the filibustering program in the house today.

They forced a roll call on every proposition and compelled a reading of every measure presented. Everything that presented a parliamentary expedient was seized to delay matters, and at the end of the session of over nine hours the house completely worn out at 5 o'clock took a recess until tomorrow, Sunday. There was no sign of the democrats abating the opposition. The reading clerk tonight was exhausted by the day's strain of trying to make themselves heard above the ceaseless din and confusion of the floor. There were 15 roll calls and two calls of the house. A feature of the day was the passage of senate omnibus public bill with the house amendments which later increased the total carried by the bill to over \$6,000,000. Leaders who opposed the bill did not attempt to defeat it, and it was passed 29 to 26, under suspension of the rules. Mann, (republican) took occasion during the debate upon it to charge collusion between the architect and contractor of Chicago public building. Gains (dem.) (Tenn.) during a discussion of the conference repeatedly arraigned the authorities for selling sacred relics of the house, including, he said, a sideboard which he said had been presented to Mrs. Hayes by the W. C. T. U. and which was now reposing in a Washington brewery. (Grosvenor (rep) (Ohio) denied the charges.

The net result of the day's session was sending to conference the naval and fortification bills, the adoption of conference reports on the railroad safety appliance bill and military academy appropriation bill, the post-office omnibus public building and the bill to settle the accounts of the officers during the Spanish war period and the adoption of the senate amendments to two other comparatively unimportant measures.

SOCIALIST CONVENTION

Interesting Account of Growing Popularity of Movement.

New York, Feb. 28.—The closing of the session of the national convention on municipal ownership and public franchises was marked by a banquet at the Reform club at which Mayor Ignatius A. Sullivan, of Hartford, Conn. presided. In a speech Mayor Sullivan told of the social democratic movement, he being a socialist. Professor Hawkins of Syracuse university asserted that the socialists are growing in this country, and that while only 200,000 of them voted at the last election, there were about 300,000 more who did not vote. It is estimated, he said, that there are over two and a half million people in this country who believe that public enterprises ought to be taken over and run by the people.

Charles R. Bellamy of England said the people are deeply dissatisfied with the disposition of wealth in all civilized countries, and are anxious that every man should get his just share of the profits.

VAN DERBILTS DEPART

Unexpectedly Leave San Francisco for the East.

San Francisco, Feb. 28.—Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt have cut short their stay in California and hurried away to New York via the Santa Fe route, giving intimation of their intended departure to only a few of their most intimate friends.

When the young couple arrived here two weeks ago it was generally understood that they would make their stay here at least a matter of 10 weeks, and local society had arranged to entertain them for that time. Mr. Vanderbilt was seen before boarding the train, but declined to state the cause of his unexpected departure.

LADRONE LEADER CAPTURED

Notorious Rebel Taken Into Custody by Province Governor.

Manila, Feb. 28.—Governor Dancell

of the Rizal province has captured Colonel Santos, one of the Lagrone leaders, at San San Jose de Navotas, a village five miles north of Manila on a small island.

Governor Dancell learned of his whereabouts and surrounded the house in which he was with police and constabulary, when he entered the house personally and made a prisoner of Santos who has been brought to Manila. Colonel Santos was the leader of the Ladrone in Rizal province and a comrade of San Miguel. A reward of 200 pesos has been offered for his capture.

MINISTER ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

Noted Methodist Humiliated By Being Arrested.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—Rev. Dr. J. M. Caldwell, for many years presiding elder of the Methodist church at Chicago, and now pastor of the Union Avenue Methodist church attempted to end his life today by throwing himself in front of a Grand Trunk train. He was unconscious when picked up. His leg was broken, and he was injured internally.

ALL BUT ONE DROWNED

Seven People Drawn Under Pile Driver on the Mississippi.

Hickman, Ky., Feb. 28.—Three women and four men last night started to cross the Mississippi river. The current suddenly carried their skiff under a pile driver and all but one went down.

FAVORS JOINT STATEHOOD

Phoenix, Ariz., Feb. 28.—The upper house of the territorial legislature of Arizona has adopted joint resolutions in favor of accepting joint statehood with New Mexico if it should prove that it is "the purpose and intent of congress of the United States to refuse them admission as a separate state." If the lower house adopts the resolutions, they will immediately be wired to Delegate Smith.

BUILDING OF PUREST GOLD

Colorado Will Expend \$10,000,000 in Reproducing Miniature of Capitol Building.

MARVEL FOR ST. LOUIS FAIR

No Difficulty Anticipated in Securing Amount Necessary—Mine Owners Will Loan Bars of Metal.

Colorado Springs, Feb. 28.—Van E. Rouse, treasurer of the board of Colorado commissioners of the St. Louis exposition, is authority for the statement that the board will have no difficulty in securing the greater part of the \$10,000,000 of gold bullion to be used in reproducing the state capitol in miniature at the St. Louis exposition. In an interview printed today Mr. Rouse is credited with saying that Thomas F. Walsh and James F. Burns, millionaire mineowners of Colorado, have each agreed to loan the commissioners \$500,000 in gold bars to be used in carrying out the idea.

NEW INSPECTORS APPOINTED

Montreal, Feb. 28.—J. H. Clark, one of the United States immigration inspectors, has just returned from the west where he has appointed 13 new inspectors for the purpose of watching that diseased immigrants do not enter the United States by the way of the Pacific coast and the Western boundary. There are in all now 23 inspectors at work between Halifax and the Pacific coast.

BIG FIRE IN HALIFAX

Halifax, Feb. 28.—A tremendous fire fanned by a fierce wind, threatened the business district of Halifax with destruction for several hours tonight. Property to the value of \$200,000 was destroyed and three firemen were seriously injured.

NEW WAISTINGS

We are showing the latest and nobbiest waistings in Astoria---just arrived from New York. Your inspection invited.

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